

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 994  
By Henry

A RESOLUTION to designate Mack S. Prichard as the Tennessee State Naturalist.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated their careers to preserving our natural environment for their fellow citizens and for future generations; and

WHEREAS, Mack S. Prichard is one such estimable State employee who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all his chosen endeavors as a conservationist; and

WHEREAS, throughout his exemplary fifty-year tenure with the Department of Environment and Conservation, Mack Prichard has distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to Tennessee's conservation community; and

WHEREAS, during the past fifty years, Mack Prichard has distinguished himself as The Conservation Conscience of Tennessee, having traveled more than two million miles in presenting to Tennesseans the natural and cultural history of their homeland and fostering outstanding conservation efforts by others; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Prichard has been responsible for the creation of more than thirty conservation organizations and has been honored more than thirty-five times for his exemplary service to conservation in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, a brief list of the prestigious conservation and environmental awards that Mr. Prichard has received includes the following honors: Tennessee State Parks Lifetime Achievement Award (October 18, 2005); Tennessee Sierra Club Friends of Environment Award from Chickasaw group (December 2005); Tennessee Trails Association Founding Leader Award (October 2005); Tennessee Federation of Garden Clubs Association Citation for Conservation Camp Assistance (September 2005); Tennessee Scenic Rivers Association

Golden Paddle Award (November 2003); Tennessee Native Plant Society, Honorary Membership (October 2003); Friends of Radnor Lake Environmental Award (June 2003); Tennessee Scenic Rivers Association Appreciation Award for Duck River Protection (June 2003); Tennessee Conservation League Z. Cartter Patten Award (June 2003); Tremont Outdoor University Consortium, Appreciation Award (September 2003); TDEC Lifetime Achievement Award for Professional Conservation (2002); Tremont Outdoor University Consortium, Appreciation Award (September 2002); National Association of State Park Directors President's Award (September 2001); Friends of South Cumberland Park, Jim Prince Award (June 2001); Tennessee Recreation and Parks Association Appreciation Award (November 2000); Tennessee State Parks Jim Robb Award for Excellence in Service (1999); Save the Cumberland River Award (July 1996); Tennessee Federation of Garden Clubs Citation for Conservation Camp Assistance (1995-1996); Daughters of the American Revolution, for Conservation Award (1994); Association of Interpretive Naturalists (NAI), Honorary Membership and National Award (1987); Sierra Club, Tennessee Chapter, Commendation and Establishment of Mack Prichard Award (1984); Tennessee Conservation League (now Tennessee Wildlife Federation), Conservation Educator of the Year Award (1975); and

WHEREAS, Mack Prichard's remarkable success as a public servant and naturalist is directly attributable to his reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and his uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, Mack Prichard epitomizes the ideal of the consummate conservationist, dedicated public servant, and reliable friend and neighbor; and

WHEREAS, Mack Prichard is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and he should be specially recognized for his lifetime of devoted and proficient service to Tennessee's natural environment and cultural history; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that for the reasons stated in the preamble of this resolution, we hereby designate Mack S. Prichard as the Tennessee State Naturalist.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that as the Tennessee State Naturalist, Mr. Prichard shall continue to photograph, publish, and lecture about Tennessee's natural environment and cultural history and teach the importance of conserving beautiful natural Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Mr. Prichard shall serve as State Naturalist without compensation, but he may be reimbursed for actual travel expenses incurred in the performance of his official duties in accordance with the comprehensive travel regulations promulgated by the Department of Finance and Administration and approved by the Attorney General and Reporter.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we hereby commend Mack Prichard for his honorable and astute service to the good people of Tennessee and salute his stalwart stewardship of Tennessee's natural environment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.